



the Breeze

Official news from the City of **portland** the
of possibilities.

Distanced **socially**
Connected **virtually**



Website Additions

The City of Portland staff continue to work remotely to help slow the spread of the coronavirus in our area. The online resources available on portlandtx.com are updated daily to ensure residents and businesses have up-to-date information on the coronavirus, available resources, the Portland emergency declaration, and all executive orders.

Additionally, the City has added new ways to interact with the City Council and other residents virtually.

SpeakUp Program

The Portland City Council plans to continue to meet virtually to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Since residents cannot attend these meetings in-person, the City has implemented a program called "SpeakUp". This program enables residents to make comments on city council agenda items prior to the city council meetings.

To access the SpeakUp program, visit portlandtx.com/418/Media-Center and click on the [SpeakUp site](#). You'll need to create an account to comment on city council agenda items. City Council agendas are posted prior to the meetings. You can request to receive email notifications when City Council agendas are posted, as well.

Portland City Council meetings occur every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. The May 2020 city council meeting dates are May 5th and May 19th. To access all official City meeting agendas, visit portlandtx.com/358/Meeting-Agendas.

Community of Good

Portland is a unique community of good neighbors, friends, families, customers, and businesses. The novel coronavirus has changed many things, but it has not changed the good in our community!

The City launched the "Community of Good" platform to help bring light to the good that is still happening in our community.

The Community of Good platform is a collection of positive, encouraging, and motivational stories and quotes residents submit on the themed prompts posted on the City of Portland Facebook page. The themes include Coffee Thoughts, Paws-itivity, Chalk Talk, and Self Care, and more.

If you do not have a Facebook and would like to participate in this effort, please email shelby.obrien@portlandtx.com. Shelby will send you the prompts in an email each day. You can reply to the email with your submission. If you'd like to remain anonymous, please indicate that in your response.

You can find the collection of all submissions collected to date at portlandtx.com/711/Community-of-Good. Access this webpage anytime you need a boost of positivity or motivation!

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MEMORIAL DAY CLOSURES, TRASH & RECYCLE SCHEDULE

All City-owned buildings are closed Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day. Trash, recycling, and bulk-item pick-up services will operate on the normal schedule and will not be affected by the holiday.

Website Additions continued...

Personal & Business Resources

Information on available resources for individuals and businesses have been added under the COVID-19 Updates tab on portlandtx.com.

The individual resources include lists of crisis contact information, health resources, food assistance, housing assistance, and more. You can find these lists at portlandtx.com/712/Personal-Resources-Information.

The business resources include information on various programs to help business owners and their employees through this economic disruption. Federal and State programs are listed on this webpage. You can find these lists at portlandtx.com/703/Business-Resources-Information.

COVID-19 Information

Information on COVID-19 case counts, facility closures, and resources are updated every day. All COVID-19 information and resources are available under the "COVID-19 Updates" tab in the top banner on the portlandtx.com homepage.

CENSUS 2020

Census 2020 is still underway! The Census is available online at <https://2020census.gov/>. You can also complete the Census over the phone or by mail.

Why Full Response Matters

The Census results help determine how federal funding is designated to states and communities. Additionally, the results of the census determine how many Congressional seats each state gets for the next 10 years!

Bell/Whittington Public Library

The Library continuously adds online resources to their webpage: portlandtx.com/181/Library.

You can find:

- Free E-Books
- Links to Virtual Museum Tours
- Technology & Career Learning
- Resources to help parents educate children on COVID-19

Portland Parks & Recreation

The Portland Parks & Recreation Department posts fun workouts, Do It Yourself (DIY) games and activities, and engaging posts on their Facebook page everyday!

Visit facebook.com/Portland-Texas-Parks-and-Recreation-Department to find the adult and kid friendly activities and videos.



#CommunityOfGood

Portland is a community of good neighbors, friends, families, customers, and businesses.

For a list of positive posts in Portland, please visit www.portlandtx.com/711/community-of-good



Important Dates to Remember

- Tuesday, May 5, 2020: Portland City Council Meeting
- Sunday, May 10, 2020: Mother's Day
- Friday, May 15, 2020: Peace Officers Memorial Day
- Tuesday, May 19, 2020: Portland City Council Meeting
- Monday, May 25, 2020: Memorial Day

Tax Filing Due Date Extension

United States Department of Treasury and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) "issued guidance allowing all individual and other non-corporate tax filers to defer up to \$1 million of federal income tax (including self-employment tax) payments due on April 15, 2020, until July 15, 2020, without penalties or interest" on March 18, 2020. Additionally, "this guidance does not change the April 15 filing deadline." (<https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm948>). If you have not filed your taxes, it is advised to request an extension to postpone the filing deadline to October 15, 2020.

NOTE: The AARP is not offering their annual Tax Aide program at the Bell/Whittington Public Library during the closures.